

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0163

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3517

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, OECD, EEC, DA, G-10

SUBJ: DANISH INTEREST IN GROUP OF TEN

PASS TREASURY AND FRB

REF: COPENHAGEN 3430, 3395

1. IN MEETING WITH FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY FOR
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, JENS CHRISTENSEN, ON ANOTHER
MATTER, HE SEIZED OPPORTUNITY TO TELL CHARGE
AND ECON COUNSELOR STERNLY THAT HE WANTED AGAIN
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TO REGISTER THE DANISH GOVERNMENT'S DEEP CONCERN

OVER ITS EXCLUSION FROM CONSIDERATION OF THE NEW RECYCLING FACILITY PROPOSED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER. WHILE BELIEVING THAT DENMARK WOULD HAVE USEFUL CONTRIBUTION IF IT WERE INCLUDED IN CONSIDERATIONS, HE FELT PRINCIPAL ISSUE WAS THE ARTIFICIAL DETACHMENT OF THIS INTEGRAL PART OF THE TOTAL ENERGY PROBLEM FROM THE MAIN GROUP WHICH HAS, SO FAR, BEEN HANDLING IT THROUGH THE ECG. IN HIS VIEW, TO PLACE CONSIDERATION OF THE NEW FACILITY IN THE "OLD BOY" CLUB OF THE G-10 RISKS REVIVING OLD FORMULAE SUCH AS STANDBY CREDITS AT A TIME WHEN FRESH, NEW SOLUTIONS ARE NOW NEEDED.

2. CHRISTENSEN SAID HE HAD NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT DIFFICULTIES IN BREAKING THROUGH THE RESOLVE OF THE G-10 TO KEEP THEIRS AN EXCLUSIVE CLUB. HOWEVER, DENMARK, ALLIED WITH THE NEXT EC PRESIDENT, IRELAND, WILL PRESS FOR A COMMUNITY POSITION WHICH WOULD LAY DOWN AN "ULTIMATUM" STATING THAT, ON AN IMPORTANT QUESTION SUCH AS A NEW INTERNATIONAL CREDIT FACILITY, THE COMMUNITY SHOULD HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SELECTING THE MEMBERS TO REPRESENT IT RATHER THAN HAVING MEMBERSHIP PREDETERMINED BY HISTORIC PRECEDENCE IN AN ORGANIZATION (I.E., G-10) WHOSE PRESENT BASIS FOR EXISTENCE IS QUESTIONABLE.

3. SEPARATELY, WE LEARNED THAT, DURING SWEDISH PM PALME'S VISIT TO DENMARK DEC. 6, HE TOLD DANISH PM HARTLING THAT HE FELT THAT ANOTHER EFTA COUNTRY, NAMELY AUSTRIA, AS WELL AS SWEDEN SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF THE G-10. WE UNDERSTAND HARTLING TALKED OF DANISH INTEREST IN BEING INCLUDED BUT WE DO NOT KNOW PALME'S RESPONSE. AT A LOWER LEVEL, THE DANISH FONOFF HAS DISCUSSED THE ISSUE WITH THE SWEDISH EMBASSY HERE. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE SWEDES EXPRESSED GENERAL SYMPATHY BUT OFFERED NO SPECIFIC ACTIONS RATHER UNHELPFULLY, FROM DANISH VIEWPOINT, SWEDES SAID CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT IT WOULD BE NICE IF NORWEGIANS WERE ALSO INCLUDED.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE EXPRESSIONS OF DANISH PIQUE FROM ALL QUARTERS. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY IRKED BY FACT THAT G-10 COMPOSITION LEAVES ONLY THE IRISH AND THEMSELVES OUT FROM AMONG COMMUNITY COUNTRIES. ON OTHER HAND,

SWEDEN, WHICH WAS INITIALLY NORDIC REPRESENTATIVE
ON G-10 IS NO LONGER CONSIDERED BY DENMARK
AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE NOW THAT DENMARK IS AN
EC MEMBER. WHETHER CHRISTENSEN CAN REALIZE
THE PLAN FOR COORDINATED COMMUNITY PRESSURE
WILL OBVIOUSLY DEPEND ON DEGREE OF SUPPORT LARGER
MEMBER STATES WOULD SEE FIT TO PROVIDE.
DUNNIGAN

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